

# بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The chapter on the uniqueness of the Prophet ﷺ in being the first Prophet created, the last one sent, and the taking of the covenant from him.<sup>1</sup>

Imām Jalāl Al-Dīn Al-Suyūṭī

Translated by Mahdi Lock

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Ibn Abī Ḥātim states in his *tafsīr*, and Abu Nu‘aym in *Al-Dalā’il min Ṭuruq*, from Qatāda, from al-Ḥassan, from Abū Huraira, from the Prophet ﷺ, regarding the saying of the Exalted One: **“And when we exacted a covenant from the Prophets, and from you (O Muḥammad) and from Noah and Abraham and Moses and Jesus, son of Mary. We took from them a solemn covenant,”** [Al-Aḥzāb 33:7] that he said: ‘I was the first of the Prophets in creation, and the last one sent, so it began before them.’

Abū Sahl al-Qaṭān states in a part of his *Amālī*, from Sahl bin Ṣāliḥ al-Hamdānī who said: ‘I asked Abu Ja‘far Muhammad bin ‘Alī how Muḥammad ﷺ preceded the Prophets when he was the last one sent? He said: “Indeed Allah the Exalted, when he took from the Children of Adam, from their backs, their offspring, and made them bear witness upon themselves, saying: **“Am I not your Lord?”** Muḥammad ﷺ was the first one to say **“Indeed”**”<sup>2</sup>, and for that reason he preceded the Prophets even though he was the last one sent.”’

Aḥmad states, and al-Bukhārī in his *Tarīkh*, along with al-Ṭabarānī, al-Ḥākim, al-Bayhaqī and Abu Nu‘aym, from Maysarat al-Fajr who said: ‘I said: “O Messenger of

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<sup>1</sup> From the book Al-Khasā’is Al-Kubra by Imām Jalāl al-Dīn Al-Suyūṭī.

<sup>2</sup> See Al-‘Arāf 7:172

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Allah, when were you a Prophet?” He said: **“When Adam was between spirit and body.”**

Aḥmad, al-Ḥākim and al-Bayhaqī state, from al-ʿArabāḍ bin Sāriyah who said: ‘I heard the Messenger of Allah ﷺ saying: **“I am, according to Allah, in the *Umm al-Kitāb* as the seal of the Prophets, and Adam was tightened in his clay.”**’

Al-Ḥākim, al-Bayhaqī and Abu Nuʿaym state, from Abu Huraira رضي الله عنه, that it was said to the Prophet ﷺ: ‘When was prophethood enjoined upon you?’ He said: **‘Between the creation of Adam and the blowing of the spirit into him.’**

Al-Bazār states, and al-Ṭabarānī in (al-Awsaṭ), along with Abu Nuʿaym from the chain of al-Shaʿbī, from Ibn ʿAbbās رضي الله عنه who said: ‘It was said: “O Messenger of Allah, when were you a Prophet?” He said: **“When Adam was between spirit and body.”**’

Abu Nuʿaym states, from al-Ṣanājī who said: ‘ʿUmar رضي الله عنه said: “When were you made a Prophet?” He said: **“When Adam was tightened in clay.”**’ *Mursal*.

Ibn Saʿd states, from Ibn Abī al-Judāʿā, who said: ‘I said: “O Messenger of Allah, when were you a Prophet?” He said: **“When Adam was between spirit and body.”**’

Ibn Saʿd states, from Maṭraf ibn ʿAbdullah bin al-Shakhīr, that a man asked the Messenger of Allah ﷺ: ‘When were you a Prophet?’ He said: **‘When Adam was between spirit and clay.’**

Ibn Saʿd states, from ʿĀmir, who said: ‘A man said to the Prophet ﷺ: “When were you made a Prophet?” He said: **“Adam was between spirit and body when the covenant was taken from me.”**’

Al-Ṭabarānī and Abu Nuʿaym state, from Abū Maryam al-Ghasānī, that a Bedouin said to the Prophet ﷺ: ‘What was the first thing from your prophethood?’ He said: **‘Allah taking from me the covenant as He took from the other Prophets their covenant, the call of my father Ibrāhīm, the glad tiding of ʿĪsā and my mother seeing**

in her sleep a light emanating from between her legs that illuminated the palaces of Shām.’

